PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/578,921                              **PATENT**
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111                        **NON-FINAL**

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

1.    (currently amended)  A <u>magnetic recording medium comprising</u> <u>a magnetic layer on at least one surface of a</u> film <u>formed from an</u> <u>aromatic polyamide, the film being</u> characterized in that the heat shrinkage ratio in the transverse direction of the film subjected to heat treatment under a condition of no tension for 30 min. at 180 °C is from 1.0 to 2.5%, and <u>wherein</u> the film<u>:</u>

<u>(1)</u> satisfies the following equations (1)-(4) simultaneously, with αMD (x $10^{-6}$/°C) and αTD (x $10^{-6}$/°C) being coefficient of thermal expansion in the longitudinal and the transverse direction, respectively, and βMD (x $10^{-6}$/%RH) and βTD (x $10^{-6}$/%RH) being coefficient of hygroscopic expansion in the longitudinal and the transverse direction, respectively[[.]]<u>:</u>

$$\text{~~-10 ≤ αMD ≤10~~}  \underline{-7 ≤ αMD ≤ 6} \qquad (1)$$

$$\text{αMD-10 ≤ αTD ≤ αMD-3} \qquad (2)$$

$$\text{-10 ≤ βMD ≤ 10} \qquad (3)$$

$$\text{βMD-10 ≤ βTD ≤ βMD-3} \qquad (4)\underline{; \ and}$$

<u>(2)</u> <u>satisfies the following equations (5) and (6)</u> <u>simultaneously, with EMD (GPa) and ETD (GPa) being Young's moduli</u> <u>in the longitudinal and the transverse direction, respectively.</u>

$$\underline{8 ≤ EMD ≤ 16} \qquad \underline{(5)}$$

$$\underline{EMDx0.7 ≤ ETD ≤ EMDx1.7} \qquad \underline{(6);}$$

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and wherein the magnetic-recording medium satisfies the following

equations (7)-(10) simultaneously, with $\alpha'MD$ (x $10^{-6}$/°C) and $\alpha'TD$ (x

$10^{-6}$/°C) being coefficients of thermal expansion in the longitudinal

and the transverse directions, respectively, and $\beta'MD$ (x $10^{-6}$/%RH)

and $\beta'TD$ (x $10^{-6}$/%RH) being coefficients of hygroscopic expansion in

the longitudinal and the transverse directions, respectively.

$$-5 \le \alpha'MD \le 10 \qquad\qquad (7)$$

$$-5 \le \alpha'MD - \alpha'TD \le 5 \qquad\qquad (8)$$

$$-10 \le \beta'MD \le 7 \qquad\qquad (9)$$

$$-5 \le \beta'MD - \beta'TD \le 5 \qquad\qquad (10).$$